

15. (New) A steel wire according to claim 13, wherein said polymer is a thermoplastic polyester selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate and polyethylene naphthenate.

16. (New) A steel wire according to claim 15, wherein said thermoplastic polyester is polyethylene terephthalate.

17. (New) A steel wire according to claim 13, wherein said coloring agent is organic.

18. (New) A steel wire according to claim 13, wherein said intermediate coating is a metallic coating comprising at least one of a copper coating, a copper alloy coating, a zinc coating, a zinc alloy coating, a nickel coating, a nickel alloy, a tin coating and a tin alloy coating.

19. (New) A steel wire according to claim 13, wherein said intermediate coating is a coating comprising at least one of a copper-tin sulfate coating and a copper-sulfate coating.

20. (New) A method of manufacturing a coated steel wire having a bright looking colored surface, said method comprising the following steps :

- (a) providing a steel core;
- (b) coating said steel core with an intermediate coating layer;
- (c) giving a degree of brightness to said intermediate coating;
- (d) using a transparent thermoplastic polyester;
- (e) further coating said steel core with an intermediate coating layer with said polyester, wherein said polyester is disposed on said intermediate coating layer.

21. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein said coating with said intermediate coating layer is done by a hot dip operation.

22. (New) A method according to claim 20, said method further comprising the step of coloring said polyester.

23. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein said giving of a degree of brightness to said intermediate coating is done by wet drawing.

24. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein said further coating with a polyester is done by an extrusion process.

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